



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday Evening, December 31, 2008

Electricity

Heavy Winds Knock Out Power to Over 100,000 Customers in the U.S. Mid-Atlantic December 31

A cold front brought strong winds to the area, downing trees and power lines and causing outages to customers in Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, and Virginia. The companies are currently reporting less than 80,000 customers remain without power. Although utilities had prepared for the outages due to forecasts of high winds, winds gusting up to 60 miles per hour posed a high risk to utility workers attempting to restore power. Dominion expects outages to last through the night because of sustained high winds and gusts.

U.S. Mid-Atlantic Customer Power Outages December 31, 2008			
Electric Utility	State	Peak	Latest Reported
Dominion	VA	44,370	26,608
NOVEC	VA	2,475	823
Pepco	MD	21,505	12,397
SMECO	MD	12,025	11,415
Delmarva Power & Light	MD	6,247	5,708
Delmarva Power & Light	DE	17,871	16,378
Pepco	DC	11,147	6,086
TOTAL *		115,640	79,415

*Total outages only represent electric utilities listed in this table.

Sources:

http://www.godanriver.com/gdr/news/local/danville_news/article/more_than_36000_virginia_homes_and_businesses_without_power/8273/

<http://www.delmarva.com/home/emergency/maps/outage/default.aspx>

<http://www.pepco.com/home/emergency/maps/zip/default.aspx>

<http://outage.smeco.coop/>

http://www.dom.com/news/outage_sos.jsp

<http://www.novec.com/news/article.cfm?id=8E2544F7-1422-2301-1C279F806B0CF064>

Update: Less than 30,000 Customers Remain Without Power in Michigan December 31 About 34,000 Hydro One Customers Remain in Dark in Canada after Storms

CMS Energy is reporting 4,000 customers without power out of 183,000 customers who lost electrical service during weekend storms. DTE Energy is reporting about 25,000 customers still without service out of 230,000 customers who lost service after this weekend. Hydro One is reporting about 34,000 customers remaining in the cold and dark in Ontario.

<http://www.radioowensound.com/news.php?id=17264>

http://www.record-eagle.com/statenews/local_story_366094051.html

<http://www.consumersenergy.com/welcome.htm?/Newsroom/NewsArticle.asp?ID=1560>

Hurricane Force Winds Knock Out Power to 30,000 Xcel Customers in Colorado December 30

Winds knocked down trees, creating power outages in the Denver metro area Tuesday morning. Xcel reported nearly 30,000 customers without power during the wind storm.

<http://www.tampabay10.com/news/national/story.aspx?storyid=97014&catid=81>

Cavallo Energy Plans 700 MW Transmission Line from New Jersey to New York

The proposed line will be built under the Hudson River to supply Manhattan with electricity.

<http://www.chron.com/dispatch/story.mpl/headline/biz/6188071.html>

Utilities Seek Approval from Minnesota Regulators over Proposed 345 kV Line from Minnesota to South Dakota

The project is led by Great River Energy and Xcel Energy, Cap X2020 plan, will run for about 230 miles from Minnesota across three states.

<http://www.platts.com/Electric%20Power/News/6069706.xml?p=Electric%20Power/News&sub=Electric%20Power>

FirstEnergy Requests Additional Time to Determine Future of Coal-fired Units 4 and 5 at its R.E. Burger Power Plant in Ohio

FirstEnergy was required under terms of a consent decree for a decision to install scrubbers and other environmental equipment for the units, repower the units, or shut them down in the next two years. The units each have a capacity of 156 MW.

<http://www.prnewswire.com/>

TXU's 750 MW Martin Lake Coal-fired Unit 2 in Texas Shut December 30

The unit was shut to repair a boiler tube leak.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=118257>

TXU's 750 MW Martin Lake Coal-fired Unit 3 in Texas Shut December 31

The unit will be shut for at least 12 hours to make boiler repairs.

Reuters, 07:24 December 31, 2008

Update: Reliant's 320 MW Etiwanda Gas-fired Unit 3 in California Returns to Service by December 30

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit experienced an unplanned outage.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200812301515.html>

Update: TXU's 575 MW Big Brown Coal-fired Unit 2 in Texas Restarts December 31

The unit was shut for repairs.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=117949>

Update: Exelon's 1,154 MW Braidwood Nuke Unit 2 in Illinois at Full Power by December 31

The unit shut following an electrical fault on the nonnuclear side of the plant.

Reuters, 07:17 December 31, 2008

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

Petroleum

TransCanada to Develop 1.2 Bcf/d Pathfinder Pipeline Project Alone after Two Investors Drop Project

Enterprise Products Partners and Quicksilver Gas Services have terminated plans for a 50 percent stake in the pipeline project that will run from Colorado to North Dakota. Both companies have cited the credit crunch as the reason for withdrawal from the project.

<http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2008/12/30/ap5869328.html>

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601082&sid=a1F.XVxJt7Ng&refer=canada>

Iraq Halts Kirkuk Crude Exports to Turkey December 31

Iraq has halted pipeline shipments to Ceyhan oil terminal in Turkey. The pipeline was pumping around 432,000 b/d before the outage. According to a shipping agent, no explanation was given for the stoppage.

Reuters. 06:59 December 31, 2008

Antrim Energy Plans Development of Causeway Field in North Sea

Antrim Energy plans on developing the field in several phases. Phase I will produce an initial production of 15,000 b/d of the estimated 7.3 MMbbls of crude from the East Causeway area. Subsequent phases will produce crude from reserves from the central and western areas of the Causeway field. Production from the field will flow through a subsea tieback to the Dunlin Platform.

<http://www.energycurrent.com/?id=2&storyid=15063>

Sinopec Group Increased Estimates of Proven Reserves at its Shengli Oilfield by 760 Million Barrels

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=71191

Update: BP Resumes Azeri Offshore Production in Caspian Sea

The Western and Central Azeri platforms were shut in September after the discovery of a gas leak. The platforms were producing 600,000 b/d before the outage, down from the usual 900,000 b/d.

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=71148

Natural Gas

DOI Approves Plan to Allow Drilling of More Natural Gas Wells in Montana December 31

The decision by Assistant Secretary C. Stephen Allred would allow companies to proceed with plans to drill on more than 1.5 million acres of federal land in Montana's Powder River basin.

<http://www.chron.com/dispatch/story.mpl/ap/nation/6188319.html>

Equipment Failure at Tilden Gas Plant in Texas December 30

A cracked weld on the stainless steel piping for the injection pump skid shut both AGI's.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=118279>

High Pressure Shuts Compressor at Big Spring Booster Station in Texas December 30

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/ee/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=118268>

Update: Williams Gas Fully Restores Gas Line B near Appomattox, Virginia December 31

The line ruptured on September 14, causing an explosion in the area. Line A was brought back into full service of 800 psi pressure last month. Williams brought Line B into full service of 800 psi and is working to increase pressure in Line C. Investigation revealed that the pipe was corroding from the outside.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/Articles/200812/Gas_Flowing_At_Full_Pressure_In_Appomattox_14470.aspx

Other News

Nothing to Report.

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices December 31, 2008			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	39.25	32.90	95.45
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	5.71	5.37	7.11

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Connecticut Light and Power Reports 14,743 Customers Without Power December 30

<http://www.cl-p.com/outage/default.aspx>

Duke Energy Reports 15,479 Customers Without Power December 31

<http://www.duke-energy.com/ohio/outages/current.asp>

USCG Investigating Ship Collision with Pier at a Fuel Containment Facility in New York December 29

<http://coastguardnews.com/ship-rams-pier-at-fuel-containment-facility/2008/12/29/>

Equipment Failure at West Waddell Compressor Station in Texas December 30

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=118287>

Flaring at South Mojo Booster Station in Texas December 31

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=118298>

Thieves Trying to Steal Crude in Nigeria Cause Fire at Dormant Oil Well Owned by Shell

Reuters, 06:07 December 31, 2008

Links

This Week in Petroleum from the Energy Information Administration (EIA)

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

Updated every Wednesday.

Weekly Petroleum Status Report from EIA

http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/weekly_petroleum_status_report/wpsr.html

Updated after 10:30 AM & 1:00 PM EST every Wednesday.

Natural Gas Weekly Update from EIA

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM EST every Thursday.

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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<http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/ead.aspx>

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